

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e) ACCOMPANYING  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Docket No.  
00380376AA

In Re Application Of: Kobayashi

APR 19 2006

Application No.  
10/649,899

Filing Date  
8-28-03

Examiner  
unknown

Customer No.  
30743

Group Art Unit  
2182

Confirmation No.  
5618

Invention: **BRIDGE APPARATUS AND BRIDGE METHOD**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

This is a statement under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e) in the above-identified application.

Check applicable statement herebelow:

Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1)

- ☒ Each item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(2)

- ☐ No item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned person, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.



Signature

Dated: 4-19-06

Michael E. Whitham  
Reg. No. 32,635  
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**Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail**

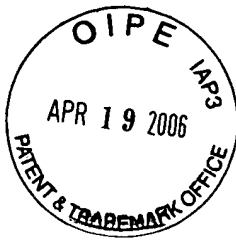
I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on

(Date)

Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

CC:



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Kobayashi

Serial No. 10/649,899

Group Art Unit: 2182

Filed: 8-28-03

Examiner: unknown

For: **BRIDGE APPARATUS AND BRIDGE METHOD**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97 through 1.99 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following documents, which are cited in a Japanese Office Action and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Copies of the listed documents are provided herewith for the convenience of the Examiner.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims. They are only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to filing of this statement.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. §1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits a translation of a portion of the official action by a foreign examiner in which the references were cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. Patent application is that the references were cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the

reference, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the same subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the translation of the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith. It is respectfully requested that the listed references be formally made of record in the application. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041

Respectfully submitted,

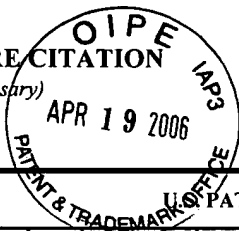
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ruth Tyler-Cross', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dr. Ruth Tyler-Cross  
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# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)



Docket Number (Optional) <b>00380367AA</b>	Application Number <b>10/649,899</b>
Applicant(s) <b>Kobayashi</b>	
Filing Date <b>8-28-03</b>	Group Art Unit <b>2182</b>

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

## U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
	1	11-32078	2-2-99	Japan				✓
	2	11-331249	11-30-99	Japan				✓

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	1	Japanese Office Action dated 3-22-06 with English translation of pertinent portions.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.